

ORAL PRESENTATION

SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF DIATOMISTS: DR. REIMER'S LEGACY AT THE ANSP DIATOM HERBARIUM.

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By the end of the 19th century several personal collections of North American diatomists have been deposited at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. In 1930-60ies these collections together with new additions were assembled into a Diatom Herbarium by the curators Drs. R. Patrick, M. Hohn, and C. Reimer. Dr. Reimer has been a devoted keeper of the Herbarium from 1960 to his death in 2008. Under Reimer's leadership it became an important research tool and educational resource for generation of North American diatomists. The Herbarium is now the second largest in the World and has extensive collections of modern and fossil, marine and freshwater diatoms, not only from North America, but from all over the planet. The goal of this presentation will be to describe the content and organization, as well as on-going renovations of the Herbarium. A special attention will be given to lesser known diatom collections stored at ANSP. We will discuss which resources are now available at the Herbarium and how it might better serve the needs of the research community of diatomists.